



A Breath of Hope

LUNG FOUNDATION

A note from our executive director...

Happy fall dear friends of A Breath of Hope. It's a beautiful time of year - I hope you find the time to 'seize the moment' – enjoy the colors, enjoy your favorite people, and choose to ignore the negativity that is so present in our society at the moment. Yuck.

As many of you have read in the paper recently, there has been a downturn in charitable giving in our country this year and it is leaving many nonprofits fearing for the future of their work. In Minnesota, 80% of nonprofits report that they have less than a year before they face financial distress, largely because of declining donations and increasing costs.

I want to assure you that while we, too, are feeling the pressure of the times and 'giving' is particularly challenging this year, we are not going anywhere. A Breath of Hope's work to improve lung cancer survival rates and quality of life for those living with lung cancer has never been more impactful and our faithful donors are showing up. I'm so proud of all we are able to accomplish with our small but mighty team and the amazing volunteers, including our devoted physicians and board members, that make so much happen at ABOH.

This year alone, we are funding three brilliant early career investigators conducting critical U.S. lung cancer research projects, collaborating with more than 25 healthcare systems to make sure patients receive biomarker testing and the best possible treatment, providing literacy-based education to 100,000 +



This special event exclusively hosted for MN providers tied to biomarker testing is available in person or virtually. Together, we will tackle the challenges and solutions around biomarker testing to ensure every lung cancer patient receives the optimal treatment at the right time.

October 25th Agenda:

7 a.m. – Networking Breakfast/Exhibitor Tables (optional)

8 a.m. – Early, Broad-based Biomarker Testing – Essential for Determining Optimal NSCLC Treatment - Bruce Johnson, MD, Chief Clinical Research Officer and Institute Physician at the Dana Farber Cancer Institute and Brigham and Women's Hospital, Professor Emeritus of Medicine at Harvard Medical School.

9:30 a.m. – How to Test? Blood vs Tissue and Recommended Panel Size - Ying-Chun Lo, MD, PhD, Assistant Professor and Consultant, Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology, Mayo Clinic; and Andrew Nelson, MD,

patients/caregivers for improved health outcomes, and providing ongoing patient & family support services to ease the burden of this terrible disease.

Great news for all who wish to support this important work - we have a 4th quarter *matching gift for the first \$100,000* we raise this quarter! We are so excited! What does this mean for you? *Your dollars now have greater impact!* Gifts of \$250 and less are matched at 50%! Example: You give \$100, ABOH gets an additional \$50 for \$150 toward the cause!

Gifts of \$251 and up are matched dollar for dollar! A 100% match! Example: You give \$300, ABOH gets an additional \$300 for \$600 toward the cause!

Your support during this last quarter of 2024 will make a difference - I hope you will continue to partner with us. Whether you participate in [Climb for Hope](#) during LCAM, attend [our fun and beautiful gala](#), or [make a year end gift](#), know that A Breath of Hope will use every dollar wisely, with no frills, toward our goal of creating more survivors.

Happy fall, Y'all. Hope to see you soon!

Nancy

PhD, Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology, University of Minnesota)

11 a.m. – How to Implement Reflex Biomarker Testing in Your Healthcare System - Overcoming hospital and clinical workflow barriers to testing with expert panel from Mayo Clinic, University of Minnesota, Allina Health, Health Partners, Rural Cancer Institute/Lakewood Health, Minneapolis VA.

Noon – Lunch/Brainstorming Session (optional) - ACS Update on New Biomarker Bill effective 1/1/2025 covering all biomarker testing, followed by a brainstorming session to identify ways to facilitate appropriate and timely testing for all patients.

Registration is still open! [Visit our website to learn more or register!](#)

A special thank you to our growing number of sponsors of the first-ever Minnesota Biomarker Summit on October 25th in Edina. Thank you...

Presenting: Bristol Myers Squibb
Platinum: AstraZeneca, Genentech, Johnson & Johnson, and Lilly
Gold: Catalyst and Foundation Medicine
Silver: Boehringer Ingelheim and Caris Life Sciences
Bronze: AbbVie, PMV Pharmaceuticals, PUMA and Regeneron